AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of rendering text in an image forming device comprising:

    a.   receiving a page description language (PDL) file for imaging, said PDL file including said text and a text size value;

    a~~a~~ b.   providing a user interface for entering a font sharpening threshold by a user;

    ~~b~~ c.   receiving a user-defined font sharpening threshold input by ~~a~~ said user from said user interface;

    d.   comparing said text size value to said user-defined font sharpening threshold;

    ~~c~~ e.   selecting a halftone screen for said text based on ~~text size and a user-defined font sharpening threshold~~ the outcome of the comparison; and

    ~~d~~ f.   rendering the text with the selected halftone screen.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein selecting the halftone screen based on the outcome of the comparison comprises selecting a halftone screen with a relatively higher halftone frequency when the text size value is less than the font sharpening threshold, and selecting a halftone screen with a relatively lower halftone frequency when the text size value is greater than the font sharpening threshold.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the user interface comprises an operator panel on the image forming device to receive user input.

5. (Currently Amended) A printing system comprising:

    a.   a user interface for entering a font sharpening threshold by a user;

    b.   a raster image processor for generating a halftone image <u>from a digital representation of objects to be printed, said objects including text and said digital representation including a text size value</u>, said raster image processor programmed to render <u>said</u> text using a halftone screen with a halftone frequency selected based on <u>a comparison of the</u> text size <s>and a</s> <u>value with said</u> user-defined font sharpening threshold input by <s>a</s> <u>said</u> user via said user interface; and

    c.   a raster output device operatively connected to the raster image processor to generate a visible output image using the halftone image output by the raster image processor.

6. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 5 wherein the user interface comprises an operator panel to receive user input specifying the font sharpening threshold.

7. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 5 wherein the raster output device is an electrophotographic print engine.